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What to Do Right Now

Practical suggestions by W. J. Glass, the famous wheat grower of Milled, Alberta, who was second in the New York Land Show Contest, designed to educate the farmer on the requirements of the present time. Written especially for the International Dry Farming Congress Bulletin Dry Farming.

It never to your inquiry as to what to do on the farm right now. I will say that now is the time to get busy and work, get our seed into the soil (especially wheat), so that it will be matured before the frost. We should have done our sowing and sowing during the winter months. Nevertheless, I will give a few hints as to how to work my land to prepare a seed bed and preserve the moisture, and also my opinion as regards the best periods to sow different cereals.

We all know that practically no fall plowing was done last year, therefore our land has either to be plowed this spring, or go direct or drilled. On account of such a short time, and so much work to be done, and plowing taking longer than digging, the question arises, is it necessary to plow or will digging do? I am a firm believer in plowing every year, except on new land which has only had one crop taken from it and is not well settled. Land in rotation can be cleared (free from weeds) could be cleared a couple of times and sowed with fairly good results, although as a rule, one does not get as large a yield.

Immediately after plowing use the plover, the same day if possible, to break after plowing the land. This is to get the land from drying out. If you haven't a plover, use a disk, if you haven't a disk, use a disc. A disk is a superior machine for breaking, but, of course, it is not so good as a plover. It is better to use a disk than a disk, but, of course, it is not so good as a plover. It is better to use a disk than a disk, but, of course, it is not so good as a plover.

At once, if you find your soil is not heavy enough, you can weight it down with stones—Oh! I forgot, not many farmers have stones on their land, well, old iron or anything with weight will do.

Now, as to cultivation needed after plowing or harrowing before drilling, all depends on condition of the soil. If very heavy disk, it is the largest wheel. It should be cultivated until no longer to maintain better than a disk's work.

I would not in any case advise using any implement after seeding that leaves the surface of the ground smooth, as this is inexpedient, and also leaves the soil and powder on top, and the wind is likely to blow it off.

As to the time of seeding, I believe from April 1st until the end of the first week in May is the best time to seed. After that I would seed out of or later until the end of May. Land that I had not seeded by that time, I would summer fallow. I prefer to sow my oats and barley the last week in April or the first week in May and be through seeding by May 15th.

Just a word about summer fallow. Do not leave your fallow too late in the fall to plow in June. By leaving the weeds grow they take plant food and moisture from the soil.

Be sure and treat your grain for smut. I treat with formal 1 at the rate of one pound to 25 gallons of water. I have never had any smut, but I treat as a precaution. If your grain is smutty, make your solution stronger.

The system I follow is to pour 5 or 6 bushels of grain in a wagon box, sprinkle with ordinary grade sprayer for the solution over the grain, and until kernels are all moist, then shovel to the front end of the wagon box, then another lot, and so on. Cover up with a canvas for a couple of hours, and then shovel out to dry. Haul the wagon out to the field and fill the drill from the wagon.

As I said at the beginning, this is a busy time, so good bye.

Sentiment

Sentiment is a volatile influence which floods the world with sunshine and the lullies' mating roses. It is a thing of the heart, and sentiment is worth a pound of gold. Some people are born with a sentiment in their hearts, and it goes through the without being asked for. Some people are born with a sentiment in their hearts, and it goes through the without being asked for. Some people are born with a sentiment in their hearts, and it goes through the without being asked for.

Sentiment isn't always convertible into ready cash, and on that account, it is frequently viewed with suspicion by people who can't find anything to admire in the month of May except the oat look of corn. If you haven't any sentiment lurking about your person, plant a little and cultivate it with something besides the smile of the cash register. You are needed to give a place, or your friends think you are, where there is a real comfort who would get a lot more out of life than rent, light and heat, if they had it to do over again. There are too many people who can hear the noise of a tuning fork six months before it falls due, but who are deaf to the song of the bluebird and the laughter of childhood. Sentiment is a wonder worker. It has caused many a man with a reputation for being lighter than a tar paper roof to shed out for a needing neighbor who hasn't looked a work of flour in the face for a month, and it fills the homes of the poor with the palpitant commination of crack hot gentle hands. Sentiment never foresees any mortgage, and has no rating for I.A.'s and Beaded leaders. It is non-divisible, non-shrinkable, non-assessable and non-transferable.

J. T. Johnston has been appointed secretary-treasurer of the Gleichen Cemetery Association, vice A. J. Maisey, and an important director of the same. The plan is now working nicely and a fair amount of money is coming in, but it is hoped that when the seedling is finished the amount will greatly increase.

"Three Weeks" was not a great success Tuesday last week, several admitting they previously put in three weeks more than literature represented that evening on the stage. The reputation of the book no doubt was largely responsible for the small attendance, but in the present case it was the play itself presented was far from being objectionable. The performance in fact was quite tame, although some of the boys gave demonstrations that the low scenes were a little too thick for the wild west.

W. F. Ferguson's
Wheat Experience

W. F. Ferguson, who is recognized as one of the most successful farmers in the Gleichen district, has written his experience in wheat growing and some one has been good enough to send the clipping to the Call. It is to be regretted that the name of the paper in which it appeared cannot be obtained. Here is what Mr. Ferguson is credited with writing.

I have had quite a little experience in raising wheat. I will give you my estimate of what it cost me. In the first place, I always take two crops off my land and then summer fallow it. Some day we may be able to cut summer fallow the land, and raise a crop every year, but by that time wheat won't be our only stand-by as it is now.

I farm a section, and keep two horse outfits going all summer. In spring I put all my best horses to work until their time is nearly up. I generally have four outfits going until finish of seeding. My hired help costs \$35 and \$10 a month and board.

Now, as to cost of producing and marketing as a rule of wheat, I will take 20 acres to figure from, as it forms a day's work for quite a few implements. I will suppose the land to have had two crops taken off since it was broken, and it is ready for summer fallowing. I will have to estimate for two years, as I always take two crops off with one plowing; for the second year I find this as good a method as any, especially as there is such a short period to fall plough on, and often in this country the ground is in such a state to plough in the fall, although there are some who say that ploughing would be best.

Thirty-five bushels to the acre is about an average for my first crop after fallowing. I have had 20 bushels to the acre, but then, again, two years ago (the dry year), I shrank to 24 bushels per acre. I shrank two crops from from 20 to 13 bushels on a acre so I will take 25 as an average crop. I now find that it cost me \$330 to raise a bushel of wheat, and I have to market the two crops on the 27 acres above mentioned; therefore per acre above mentioned: (Continued on page 8)

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